

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (previously presented): A method for determining the viscosity of a liquid comprising providing a rotary pump having an inlet, an outlet, a rotor and a maximum efficiency, directing the liquid into the pump, operating the pump at a reduced efficiency which is less than half the maximum efficiency of the pump, determining a torque required to operate the pump at the reduced efficiency, and determining the viscosity of the liquid from the torque applied to the pump.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A method according to claim 15 wherein determining the torque comprises driving the pump with an electric motor, and measuring a current consumed by the rotor for generating the torque.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A method according to claim 15 including reducing a liquid flow through the pump to substantially zero during determining the torque.

Claim 18 (previously presented): A method according to claim 17 wherein reducing comprises preventing liquid from flowing through the pump outlet.